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- Jerusalem, William. *Problems of the Secondary Teacher*. Translated by Charles F. Sanders. Boston: Richard G. Badger. 1918. Pp. 253. \$1.75.
- Link, Henry C. *Employment Psychology: the application of scientific methods to the selection, training and grading of employees*. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1919. Pp. xii + 440. \$2.50.

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### HAECKEL

IN the death of Ernst Haeckel the world loses the last of those great Victorians for whom Darwinian evolution was not merely a biological hypothesis, but the foundation of a new philosophy and a new religion. Haeckel was the Spencer of Germany; and like Spencer he undertook to preach the new gospel of evolution to the people at large. Though possessed of a vastly greater knowledge of the science of zoology than his English prototype, he was inferior to him in philosophic power, and especially in clarity and tolerance.

The central thought in Haeckel's philosophy is what he called monism. This monism of his was a rather crude development of the monism of Spinoza. Like the greater doctrine, it opposed dualism both in the individual and in the cosmos. Man's mind is an inseparable aspect of his body and shares the composite and perishable character: while, in the world at large, whatever may be called divine or spiritual is an inseparable aspect of the eternal and infinite system of matter and energy.

On this monistic psychology and cosmology Haeckel founds his monistic theories of ethics and education. He rejects what he regards as the other-worldliness and asceticism of Christian ethics and attacks these tendencies with the harshest and most bitter invective. Yet for all his anti-clericalism there is nothing of the Nietzschean attempt to subordinate right to might, and to make ideals secondary to a "will to power." Haeckel believed with Spencer that the Golden Rule expressed adequately the rival claims of egoism and altruism; and, also like Spencer, he believed that the new evolutionary science was capable of giving both a psychological explanation and a logical sanction of the moral sense.

In his monistic theory of education Haeckel advocated a far more extensive and intensive teaching of natural science than that which exists. Like many gentler reformers he mourned the fact that the incredible advances in our knowledge of physical nature had failed to react upon human culture. And it is interesting to find him in-

veighing against the double standard of morals which permits governments to follow a policy of unbridled egoism that is in direct contradiction to the Christian altruism which is preached as the rule of life for individuals.

That Haeckel was swept into the vortex of hate and criminal madness that engulfed so many of the German professors at the outbreak of the war, should not blind us to the fact that he was a great man. He preached with harshness and sometimes with amazing crudity and unfairness, yet always frankly and bravely, the same principles of monistic materialism that are believed by the softer and more tactful majority of his scientific colleagues. He was as lacking in technical philosophic learning and subtlety as in graces of style. But these defects were offset in large measure by his energy and sincerity, and by a kind of clumsy clearness due largely to iteration. Haeckel wrote not for philosophers, but roughly for plain and rough minds. Multitudes of men read him, understood what they read and were convinced of its truth. He was a power in his generation; and more for good than evil.

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PROFESSOR A. S. PRINGLE-PATTISON has resigned from the University of Edinburgh, where he has held the chair of Logic and Metaphysics since 1891.

PROFESSOR NORMAN KEMP SMITH, since 1913 McCosh professor of philosophy at Princeton, has been called to the professorship of philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. During his stay here he has won, both by his personality and his scholarly attainments, a distinguished place among American philosophers. It is with very keen regret that we part with him, but he goes to his new position supported by the good wishes of many loyal friends.

PROFESSOR A. E. DAVIES, professor of philosophy at the Ohio State University, has been appointed head of the department of philosophy and psychology at Colorado College.

DR. ARTHUR M. JORDAN, who has just completed two years of research work at Columbia University, will return to the University of Arkansas this fall as head of the department of psychology.